

Bill would ban cop ticket quotas

AP — Police officers across the state no longer could be required to meet a daily quota of traffic tickets under a bill approved by a House panel.

The House Judiciary Committee unanimously recommended legislation that would limit the ability of police chiefs to discipline officers who don't write enough tickets.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Perry Bullard, D-Ann Arbor, now moves to the full House.

BULLARD SAID the measure will protect the public from police agencies that put pressure on their officers to write a lot of tickets to raise money for local government.

He said it will make sure police agencies focus their attention and resources on fighting more serious crimes.

"Citizens deserve to know that serious crimes are not taking a back seat to traffic violations because of systems which value points more than people," Bullard said.

"If we continue to allow police departments to allocate the bulk of their 'productivity points' to traffic enforcement activities, many officers will feel pushed to spend their time ticketing motorists at the expense of pursuing more serious transgressors."

THE BILL WOULD, for example, force the Dearborn Heights Police Department to drop its requirement that officers write an average of one traffic ticket a day.

Police Chief Raymond Collins said

K mart endows chair at WSU

K mart Corp. has endowed a chair in marketing at Wayne State University's business school with a \$2 million check.

Joseph E. Antonini, board chairman, president and chief executive officer of the Troy-based retailer, presented the check to WSU President David Adamany to finance the K mart chair of marketing.

The nation's second largest retailer, the 25-year-old chain operates nearly 4,000 retail outlets in North America with sales last year of nearly \$24 billion.

"The marketing chair is the largest fully endowed chair outside of WSU School of Medicine," Adamany announced the appointment of Dr. J. Patrick Kelly to fill the chair. Kelly came to WSU in 1985 to fill a temporary K mart professorship.

"With his arrival, the university has strengthened its teaching and research in retailing as a sub-specialty

High court open to film, recorders

For the first time in its history, the Michigan Supreme Court will allow cameras and tape recorders in its courtroom this Tuesday and Wednesday when it hears oral arguments on eight cases. Chief Justice Dorothy Comstock Riley announced.

More than a dozen television stations, newspapers, news services, radio stations and radio networks have indicated they will film, photograph and tape record the proceedings on the first day of oral arguments.

Cameras and tape recorders are being permitted in the courtroom of the state's highest court as part of a pilot program to work out procedures necessary for implementing use of electronic equipment by the news media in all state courts next year.

Oakland is one of five circuit courts where the experiment began in mid-October.

THE STATE Supreme Court approved a rule for limited numbers of cameras and recording equipment in

November jobless rate up to 7.7%

Michigan's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for November climbed by half a percentage point to 7.7 percent, according to Richard Simmons Jr., director of the Michigan Employment Security Commission.

He blamed job losses in the state's construction and service sectors.

According to the labor force estimates prepared by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, Michigan's jobless total in November rose by 23,000 to 350,000. Nevertheless, it was the lowest November jobless

officers who fail to write enough tickets over a six-month period are given a written warning, counseled and face suspensions if they don't improve.

He rejected Bullard's contention that stopping motorists takes away from more serious crime fighting.

"It's amazing the things you find when you stop people. Traffic arrests probably lead to more arrests than anything else," Collins said. "As long as we can get our guys out there stopping and looking and finding out what's going on, that's half the battle."

A NUMBER OF police union representatives praised the bill as an important safeguard against using police officers for revenue raising instead of public safety.

The Michigan State Police, which has insisted it does not use ticket quotas, has dropped a computerized evaluation system that included ticket writing in its evaluation of troopers.

Major James Daust, head of the agency's uniform division, said Col. Ritchie Davis ordered his post commanders to stop using the Activity Analysis System to discipline officers beginning Sept. 1.

Several troopers had criticized the system because they said it put too much emphasis on stopping speeders. For example, an officer who stopped a motorist stranded on a winter night would receive 10 evaluation points, but chasing a speeding motorist was worth 60 points.

of the marketing department," said Adamany.

Antonini said the grant "symbolizes our respect for Wayne State University and the contribution it has made to the success of K mart by training many of our people in finance, marketing, liberal arts and the law. It also suggests the importance we place on marketing disciplines for a vital retail organization."

Adamany said the dual announcements are a milestone in the history of WSU's School of Business Administration.

"As an urban university," he said, "Wayne State welcomes the opportunity to join in partnership with the major businesses and corporations so important to the economic and cultural future of the Detroit area."

"The creation of the K mart chair demonstrates the commitment of the nation's second-largest retail firm to the enhanced spirit of cooperation between the public and private sectors."

Michigan's 241 trial courts and two appellate courts on a one-year trial basis starting next Feb. 1.

Both appellate courts — the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals — are allowing film and electronic coverage in their courts during December.

The Court of Appeals will allow cameras in its Grand Rapids courtroom next Wednesday, in its Lansing courtroom on Dec. 14 and its Detroit courtroom on Dec. 15.

UNTIL NOW, cameras and tape recorders have been permitted in the Supreme Court chambers only for ceremonial events — the swearing-in of new justices, judges or attorneys, and the presentation of portraits of former members of the Supreme Court.

The high court will hear oral arguments on five cases on Tuesday morning and afternoon and on three cases Wednesday morning, but one of the eight cases are civil matters.

rate since 1978 when the rate was 7.2 percent.

In October, the statewide unemployment rate had been 7.2 percent with 327,000 out of work.

A year earlier, November 1986, Michigan's unemployment rate was 8.3 percent with 373,000 jobless.

As unemployment rose, total employment statewide fell by 28,000 in November to 4,177,000. The labor force total remained virtually unchanged from October to November declining by 5,000 to 4,527,000.

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